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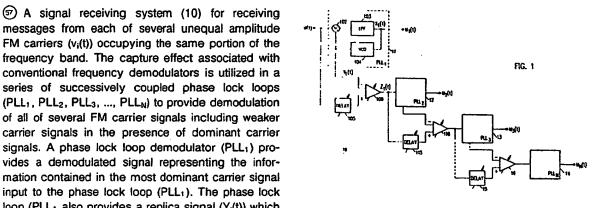
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Multiple use of an FM band.

messages from each of several unequal amplitude FM carriers (v_i(t)) occupying the same portion of the frequency band. The capture effect associated with conventional frequency demodulators is utilized in a series of successively coupled phase lock loops (PLL₁, PLL₂, PLL₃, ..., PLL_N) to provide demodulation of all of several FM carrier signals including weaker carrier signals in the presence of dominant carrier signals. A phase lock loop demodulator (PLL₁) provides a demodulated signal representing the information contained in the most dominant carrier signal input to the phase lock loop (PLL₁). The phase lock loop (PLL₁ also provides a replica signal (Y_i(t)) which is identified to the most dominant carrier signal input. The input signal (V_i(t)) is also delayed in a delay circuit (105) and input into an input port of an output circuit (106). The replica signal (Y_i(t)) is also coupled to an input port of the output circuit (106). The output circuit (106) produces an output signal (Z_i(t)) Which is identical to the input signal (V_i(t)) except that the most dominant carrier signal is suppressed. The output signal (Z_i(t)) is then coupled to a successive phase lock loop (PLL₂) and delay circuit (115).



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MULTIPLE USE OF AN FM BAND

Background of the Invention

This invention relates generally to frequency plitude. In addition, an inherent feature of the

radio receiver, the demodulator circuit suppresses weaker FM signals. The receiver is said to be Carpenter et all describes a system for subtraccy modulation theory.

(1) dynamic trapping and (2) feed-forward.

Dynamic trapping attempts to reduce the amplitude of the stronger signal by tuning an electrical to the stronger signal by the stronger signa bandpass filter. The filter reduces the signal limiter is used to detect a desired signal received strength of the stronger signal so that it becomes with an interfering signal at nearly the same frethe weaker signal. A conventional demodulator is quency as the desired signal but at significantly then used to recover the message from its dominant input, which was originally the weaker desired signal. The theoretical performance of the dynamic _____ signal having the amplitude of the interfering signal trapping technique is uncertain, since it appears to 35. require that the concepts of instantaneous frequen- signal portion produced by the limiter. The concy and Fourier transform frequency be equated. stant amplitude and limiten signals combine Therefore, Baghdady relies on experimental results.

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The feed-forward technique uses signal suppression provided by narrow band limiters. Such pression of undesired signals is described. imiters are also difficult to analyze mathematically and again, Baghdady relies on experimental results for supporting this technique. By the very principles of their operation, neither dynamic trapping 45 to utilize a phase-locked loop (PLL) in extracting signor feed-forward tend to function as intended when the instantaneous frequency of the applied FM 11:01, signals are equal or approximately equal.

The prior art also includes U.S. Patents Nos. 3,226.646 to Ludwig, 3,753,123 to Carpenter, et al. and 4,739,518 to Bickley et al. All of these references attempt to recover information from a weaker signal in the presence of one or more stronger signals by signal cancellation and related filtering techniques.

In Ludwig a cancellation bridge is used for cancellation of interfering signals and employs a strong signal tracking filter for isolating the interference. The tracking filter incorporates a high signal modulation (FM) radio systems, more particularly, s s capture-type demodulator, which provides an insystems for receiving all desired broadcast messages from multiple. FM carriers of unequal amelectronically tunable filter with the frequency of present invention is that all suppressed signals, the undesired stronger signal. Only one output, both carrier and modulation, are recoverable to 10.11 namely the demodulated weaker signal, is obsubstantially the same extent.

In a conventional frequency modulation (FM), quency, and Fourier transform frequency are equat-

captured by the strongest signal and all presently 5015 ting unwanted signals from input signals to provide known FM demodulators exhibit this "capture effect." Capture effect, a weak-signal-suppression section teaches use of a phase-locked loop (PLL) in signal characteristic, is a well known property of frequenwhich includes any incidental amplitude variations The prior art includes work by E. J. Baghdady 20 of the carrier signal, and which is vectorially subas described in "Signal Cancellation Techniques to ctracted from the input signal. More than one esfor Capturing the Weaker of Two Co-Channel FM server are timate signal may be derived for vector subtraction Signals", Electro-Magnetic Wave Propagation and since each extractor remains locked on its 1960, pages 183-207, Academic Press. Two signal own signal, the effect of removing one or more cancellation techniques were discussed, namely, 25 input signals 10 by such subtraction has little or no strong of effect on the remaining signals. Cancellation only

> greater amplitude. In the described system, a gaincontrolled amplifier provides a constant amplitude portion equal to the amplitude of the interfering through a subtraction operation to effectively cancel the interfering signal while causing only small 40 mattenuation of the desired signal. Again, only sup-

> > None of these references apparently appreciate other advantages and uses of capture effect of FM demodulators. In addition, while Carpenter et al nals from input signals, none of the references appreciate other advantages and uses of phaselocked loop technology for discriminating more than one signal component of the input signal.

> > > Summary of the Invention

In the present invention, capture effect asso-

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ciated with frequency demodulators is used in cooperation with phase-locked loops in a new demodulator to provide improved demodulation of all of several FM carriers including weaker signals in the presence of dominant carriers. A frequency demodulator converts the instantaneous frequency of the applied signal to a voltage. When the sum of two or more signals is present at the input to the demodulator of the present invention, the output voltage mo(t), is proportional to the instantaneous frequency of the dominant portion of the input signal. Thus, the dominant signal is said to capture the demodulator. I the this be made so

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When mo(t) is used to frequency modulate another sinusoid, then a replica of the original dominant signal is created in the receiver. The replica signal is now isolated from the other weaker receiver input signals and can be subtracted from the composite input to effectively suppress the dominant signal. After subtraction, weaker carriers 200 200 400 of the input signal remain. The remaining signal then can be successively demodulated in the same way virtually as many times as desired for demodulation of as many component carriers of the कर संस्थित input signal as desired. प्रशासन कर्म कि

the error and its 'For effective' cancellation using the present invention, the carrier frequency and the extent of warrable delays and variable gain difference amplifiand a modulation of the replica signal must be substantially the same as the dominant signal. In practice, it is not possible to achieve this condition using a 10.30 b the conventional signal source and frequency modulator. However, by using a voltage-controlled oscillator (VCO) in a PLL, near exact replication of the dominant signal is possible. Thus, when the phaselocked loop is operated as a frequency démodulator, the output of the VCO is the replica of the dominant input signal to be cancelled.

Recovery of weaker signal information is inhersent in the design of a signal receiving system' constructed according to the principles of the present invention. A plurality of output signals recarries are presenting the messages contained in the modulation of a succession of dominant input signals, r derived from remaining components of the original Princut signal in descending order of dominance, is cobtainable from each phase-locked loop demodulator comprising the signal receiving system of the present invention. Consequently, this invention makes possible multiple reuse of FM bands, that is. several FM carriers having unrelated messages can coexist in the same frequency band with all or re reselected messages being recoverable by application of this invention.

> mps are The present invention permits and includes the concept of power division multiplexing whereby a number of messages (customers) share transmitter power with each other using the same frequency band simultaneously. This concept is consistent

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with other well understood and implemented techniques such as time division multiplexing and frequency division multiplexing.

Description of the Drawing

Figure 1 is a block diagram of a signal receiving system constructed according to the principles of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a block diagram of the variable delay employed in the system of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a block diagram of the variable-15 gain difference amplifier employed in the system of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a block diagram of the PLL employed in the system of Figure 1.

Description of the Preferred Embodiment

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Referring to Figure 1, signal receiving system 10 comprises a plurality of PLL demodulators, each of which includes a mixer, lowpass filter (LPF) and VCO. The system further includes pluralities of ers coupled, respectively, to each of the phaselocked loop demodulators as shown and further described elsewhere in this specification.

> With the continuing reference to Figure 1, input signal Vi(t) is assumed to include many FM carrier signals of various strengths and will be described in more detail elsewhere in this specification. The receiving system of the present invention may be connected to the front end, i.e. radio frequency (RF) antenna, 'RF amplifier, mixer and intermediate frequency (IF) amplifier, of any conventional superheterodyne radio receiver. In such systems, the mixer down converts received RF energy into a received IF signal. Typically, the received IF signal preserves the signal-to interference ratio of the received RF energy, and the frequencies of the desired as well as interfering signals. Thus, frequency components of the Rif energy are preserved in the IF signals.

Phase-locked loop 11 (also referred to as PLL) comprises mixer 102, LPF 103 and VCO 104. One input of mixer 102 is coupled to the input signal Vi-(i). The output of mixer 102 is coupled to the input of LPF: 103. The output of LPF 103 is coupled to the input of VCO 104 and produces message information m_i(t) demodulated from the most dominant FM signal. The output of VCO 104 is applied to another input of mixer 102 and to the input of difference amplifier 106.

PLL2, PLL3 . . . PLLa are essentially the same circuits as that just described for PLL_I.

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The input signal is also applied to the input of variable delay 105. The outputs of delay 105 and VCO 104 are applied to the inputs of variable-gain difference amplifier 106. The output of amplifier 106 comprises input signal V_i(t) with the most dominant carrier suppressed. Demodulation of the most dominant carrier of the output signal from amplifier 106 is provided by PLL2. It should be noted that the most dominant carrier of the output signal from amplifier 108 is, typically, the second + $B_2\cos[(\omega_1 + \epsilon_2)t + ofm_2(a)da]$ m was a transection of most dominant carrier of input signal V_i(t).

Since PLL3 is substantially the same as PLL1 and PLL2, demodulation of the third most dominant carrier of input signal V_i(t) is provided by PLL₃. The input of PLL3 is coupled to the output of variablegain amplifier 116. One input of variable gain amplifier 116 is coupled to the output of the VCO forming a part of PLL2 (shown). The other input of difference amplifier 116 is coupled to the output of variable-gain amplifier 106 via delay 115. Again, 200 of the out the last of t the output signal from variable-gain amplifier 116 is 1000 St. 37, 380 220 25, 38 4 10 5 4 10 22 32 35 the input signal $V_i(t)$ with the first two most dominant carriers suppressed. Sale 1977

To the extent that the strength of the individual nents of Vi(t); carriers of input signal V(t) permit, any number of individual demodulations of the carriers of V_i(t) can oe obtained as each such carrier becomes dominant in later stages of the receiving system of the present invention. Thus, recovery of the information contained in the modulation of all carriers of Vi(t), in descending order of dominance, is obtained.

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Variable delay 105 may also be merely a variable-phase shift circuit for appropriately adjusting the phase of the output from the previous stage of receiving system 10 for coherence with the output of VCO 104. Delay 105 may use operational amplifier circuit techniques in order to alter the signal phase in a precise and predictable manner. Thus, variable delay 105 may include four (4) LM-318 operational amplifier stages, where each stage has the possibility of continuously variable phase change from 0 to 90°, as shown in Figure 2. Alternatively variable delay 105 may comprise circuits or systems creating delay directly (e.g., switched capacitor filters).

Variable-gain difference amplifier 107 may be any circuit suitable for combining a signal having the same amplitude and frequency as one component of another signal. Such circuits are well known and may include an LM-318 operational amplifier con figured as shown in Figure 3."

Phase-locked loops, PLL, . . . PLL, are conventional, each consisting of such well known components as a mixer, a lowpass filter and a reference voltage-controlled oscillator for producing a reference or replica signal. Typically, all of the components of a PLL are integrated as a single semiconductor product, such as part number 562, manufactured by Signetics, Inc., which may be used in the present invention as shown in Figure 4.

When the VCO follows the frequency change of Vi(t), the VCO output is the frequency of the dominant component of V_i(t) because of capture effect.

Input signal Vi(t) is given by the following relation:

 $V_i(t) = B_1 \cos[\omega_1 t + o \int_0^t m_1(a) da]$

 $^{\circ}$ + B_ncos[(ω_1 + ϵ_n)t + $_{\circ}$ /tm_n(a)da] is if $s_1(t) = B_1 cos[\omega_1 t + \omega_2]^t m(a) da], the most dominated$ and $j_2(t) = B_2 \cos[(\omega_1 + \epsilon_2)t + o/m_2(a)da]$ + Bacos[(ω1 + 63)t + of m3(a)da]

remaining successively dominant signal compo- $25 = s_2(t) + s_3(t) + \cdots + s_n(t)$ then, $V_i(t) = s_1(t) + j_2(t)$.

> Modulation components, m1 . . . mn, are arbitrary. Carrier frequencies, f_1 , f_2 . . . f_n where f_k = are typically in the same band. If ail other components of V_i(t), namely j₂(t), individually do not exceed in amplitude the carrier signal s1(t), then the output x1(t) of PLL1 is equal to m1(t) because of the capture effect of the first demodulator. Since message m₁(t) is recovered from the dominant carrier of V_i(t), and since VCO 104 is a frequency modulator itself being modulated by m1(t), then y1-(t) of Figure 1 is a replica of the dominant carrier of $V_i(t)$.

> Referring again to Figure 1, the delays and variable-gain 20 summers are adjusted to minimize the level of previously dominant signals present at the input of the PLL of interest. Owing to the capture effect of subsequent FM demodulator stages, complete suppression of the undesired signal components is unnecessary; i.e., it is not necessary that $z_k(t)$ equals $j_k(t)$ where $z_k(t)$ is a signal in which sk+1(1) is the dominant component. Rather, it is only necessary that the level of $S_{k+1}^{(i)}$ merely exceed the level of all other signal components of $j_k(t)$ where k is any integer in the range 1, 2, ... n, in order to recover information from any component of V_i(t).

> The present invention also incorporates power division multiplexing whereby a number of messages (customers) share transmitter power with each other using the same frequency band simultaneously. This concept is consistent with other well understood and implemented techniques such as

time division multiplexing and frequency division multiplexing.

With reference to Figure 1, the average power of V₁(t) is distributed among its components s₁(t), s2(t), --- sN(t). The greater share of this total average power arises from s₁(t) because it is the dominant signal. Likewise, the average power of si(t) exceeds that of $s_{i+1}(t)$ where j = 0,1,2,3, --, N. In this manner, the total average power is allocated to the various components of V_i(t) or multiplexed among the various messages in that assigned FM band all of which is being used by each customer. Since a power lever is assigned to each user, the result is power division multiplexing in the same sense that frequency band assignment to each user is frequency division multiplexing and time slot assignment to each user is time division multiplexing.

While the present invention has been particularly shown and described with respect to a preferred embodiment thereof, it should be understood by those skilled in the art that changes in form and detail may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or exceeding the scope of the appended claims. In particular, for example, this invention may be used for phase modulated carriers as well as for FM carriers.

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1. Signal receiving system for receiving an input signal having a plurality of modulated carrier signals included therein, said system characterized by:

first demodulator means (PLL₁) for receiving the input signal, for producing a signal representing the demodulated message of the most dominant carrier signal of said input signal, and for producing a replica signal of said dominant carrier signal;

delay means (105) coupled to the demodulator means (PLL₁) for receiving the input signal, and for producing a first signal identical to said input signal except that said first signal is selectively delayed with respect to said input signal;

output means (106), coupled to the delay means (105) and to the demodulator means (PLL₁), for receiving and combining said first signal produced by said delay means (106) and said replica signal produced by said demodulator means (PLL₁), and for producing an output signal representing the input signal with the most dominant carrier suppressed; and

second demodulator means (PLL₂) coupled to said output means (106) for receiving the output signal produced thereby, for producing a signal representing the demodulated message of the second most dominant carrier of said input signal, and for pro-

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ducing a replica signal of said second most dominant carrier signal.

 A signal receiving system as in Claim 1 characterized by:

a plurality of demodulator means (PLL₁, PLL₂, PLL₃, PLL_N) each for producing a signal representing the demodulated message of the next successively dominant carrier signal in said input signals, and for producing a replica signal of said next successively dominant carrier signals:

a plurality of output means (105, 115, 15); and a plurality of delay means (105, 115, 15) having an input each respectively coupled to the output of one of said output means (106, 116, 16) for producing first signals identical to signals received therefrom selectively delayed with respect to said received signals;

each of said plurality of output means (106, 116, 16) being coupled to one of said demodulator means (PLL₁, PLL₂, PLL₃, ..., PLL_N) and one of said delay means (106, 116, 16) for receiving and combining said first and said replica signals produced thereby, and for producing a plurality of output signals, each of said output signals having the next successively dominant carrier signal of said input signal suppressed.

3. A method for receiving an input signal having a plurality of modulated carrier signals included therein, said method characterized by the steps of producing a signal representing the demodulated message of the most dominant carrier signal of said input signal;

producing a replica signal of the most dominant carrier signal;

producing a first signal identical to said input signal except that said first signal is selectively delayed with respect to said input signal;

combining said replica and said first signals to produce an output signal representing the input signal with the most dominant carrier suppressed; and

producing a signal representing the demodulated message of the second most dominant carrier signal of said input signal.

4. The method as in Claim 3 characterized by the additional steps of:

producing a plurality of signals representing the demodulated message of the next successively dominant carrier signal in said input signal;

producing a plurality of replica signals of the next successively dominant carrier signals;

producing a plurality of first signals identical to said input signal with the immediately preceding dominant signals suppressed, said first signals being selectively delayed with respect thereto; and

combining said pluralities of replica and first signals to produce a plurality of output signals, each of said output signals having the next successively

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dominant carrier signal of said input signal suppressed.

5. A signal receiving system for receiving an input signal having a plurality of modulated carrier signals included therein, said system characterized by:

first phase lock loop means (PLL₁) for receiving said input signal, said first phase lock loop means (PLL₁) for generating a first signal representing the stone sermeans (PLL₂) being tuned to lock at the frequency demodulated message of the most dominant cares, \$10.33 of said second most dominant carrier signal. rier signal of said input signal and for generating a first replica signal of said most dominant carrier signal;

delay means (105) coupled to said first phase lock loop means (PLL₁) for receiving said input signal, said delay means (105) for producing a delayed religion predetermined range to the control of th signal being selectively delayed with respect to said input signal; . ..

(106) for producing an output signal representing said input signal having said most dominant carrier signal suppressed; and ...

second phase lock loop means (PLL₂) coupled to t belowing status Ar signal receiving systems as in Claim 5 produced thereby and for generating a second. Light old plurality of successive phase lock loop means signal representing the demodulated messagehof of after (PLL1, PLL2, PLL3, c.,, PLL3) each of said succesthe second most dominant carrier signal of said input signal and for producing a second replica continuous of the next successive dominant carrier signal of

characterized in that said first phase lock loop at a soling the demodulated message of the next succesmeans (PLL₁) comprises: mixer means (102) having first and second input the a signal and generating a replica signal of said next ports, said input signal coupled to said first input of 40 no. successive most dominant carrier signal; port and said first replica signal coupled to said ... second input port, said mixer means (102) combining said input signal and said replica signal for producing signals representing the sum and the difference of said input and first replica signals; lowpass filter means (103) coupled to said mixer means (102) for receiving and filtering said signals produced by said mixer means (102) and for producing said first signal representing said demodulated message of said most dominant carrier sig-

oscillator means (104) coupled to said lowpass filter means (103) for generating a signal having a frequency substantially equal to the frequency of said most dominant carrier signal, said oscillator means (104) responsive to said first signal for modulating said signal for producing said first replica signal of said most dominant carrier signal.

nal; and

-7. The signal receiving system as in Claim 6 characterized in that said oscillator means (104) comprises a voltage controlled oscillator.

8. The signal receiving system as in one of the preceding Claims characterized in that said second triphase lock loop means (PLL2) comprises substantially identical components as said first phase lock loop means (PLL₁), said second phase lock loop

9. The signal receiving means as in one of the preceding Claims characterized in that said delay means (105) comprises a plurality of amplifier stages, each said amplifier stage providing selectable continuously variable phase change over a

signal identical to said input signal, said delayed on the signal receiving means as in as in one of the preceding Claims characterized in that said us 15 (2013) output means (106) comprises a variable gain difoutput means (106) coupled to said delay means to verterential amplifier having a first, input port coupled (105) and to said first phase lock loop means to segments said/delay, means (105) after receiving said de-(PLL₁) for receiving and combining said delayed as you blayed signal and a second input port coupled to signal produced by said delay means (105) and 9 (115) said: first: phase-lock loop means! (PLL) for receivsaid first replica signal generated by said first lightly said first replica signal, said differential amphase lock loop means (PLL₁), said output means of the combining said delayed signal and said first replica signal for producing said output signal, said #81 output signal representing said input signal with 1800 (61 ,8) said most dominant carrier signal suppressed.

sive phase lock loop means tuned to the frequency signal of said second most dominant carrier signal. said input signal, each of said successive phase 6. The signal receiving system as in Claim 5 of collock loop means for generating a signal representsive most dominant carrier signal in said input

> a plurality of successive output means (106, 116, 16), each said successive output means (106, 116, 16) having a first input coupled to an immediately preceding phase lock loop means and an output port coupled to a next successive phase lock means, each said output means for producing an output signal having said next successive dominant carrier signal suppressed;

a plurality of successive delay means (105, 115, 15), each of said successive delay means (105, 115, 15) coupled between said output port of an immediately preceding output means and a second input port of a next successive output means, said delay means (105, 115, 15) for receiving said output signal produced by the immediately preceding output means and producing a delayed signal identical to said output signal and being selectively delayed with respect to said output signal, said

delay signal coupled to said second input port of said next successive output means.

12. Apparatus as in one of the preceding Claims characterized in that said first replica signal is given by the relation:

$$s_1(t) = B_1 cos[(\omega_1 + \epsilon_X)t + \int_0^\infty mk(a)da].$$

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13. Apparatus as (in one of the preceding " fino (1) the second s Claims, characterized, in that said first signal as a safe of the same see two transfers to the same seems of the same s ខេត្ត ខេត្ត ស្រីស្រា ខេត្ត ប្រជាជាមួយ នៃ ដូច និង និង និង ម៉ា ម៉ាងប្រា ខេត្ given by the relation: 5 电路接流 医水溶液 医细胞性 医抗性原因 医二角状腺 医二角形 of the Devices (Made 12) $m_1(t) = -2 \int m_1(a) da$. a, (me - a)β<mark>0</mark>2. Si€0 €5 a aa, s≥

eplurality of modulated carrier signals, said appara- leave to the control of the tus characterized by: 1980 of all the

a plurality of demodulator means (PLL1, PLL2, 1949 on the 'PbL3, 24, PbLN) for producing a plurality of signals 1 so often gravitepresenting ()the indemodulated message of (the minimal) of the interest of the content of the c 1. Agreed remost dominants carrier signal areceived by each of the fact that will be accessed to the control of with the following plurality of demodulators means (PLL1, PLL2, 1966) is the residual to the following means (PLL1, PLL2, 1966) is the residual to the following means (PLL1, PLL2, 1966). tandid a replical signals representative soft said most domi-unit of the best of the Symbol control of the control of the said of the control crist areas of nant carrier signals; religiously application a plurality of output means: (106, 116, 16); a plurality toft delay means (105, 1115, 15) each

ceived therefrom selectively delayed with respect and a construct and a great selectively to said received signals; and each of said plurality of output means (106, 116, the most of the being coupled to jone of said demodulator and the modulator is the modulator of the modulator and the modulator is the modulator of the modulat said delay means (106, 1.16, 16) for receiving and the said telay. series and said replica signals and said replica signals produced thereby and for producing a plurality of output signals, each of said output signals having and the signal signals having and the signals are signals. the next successively dominant carrier signal of tight the said input signal suppressed.

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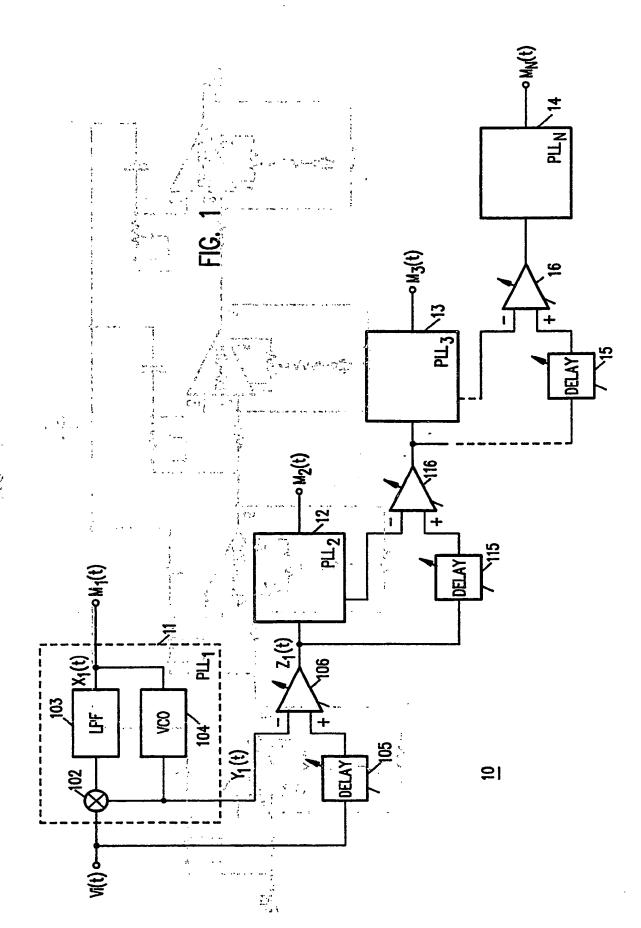
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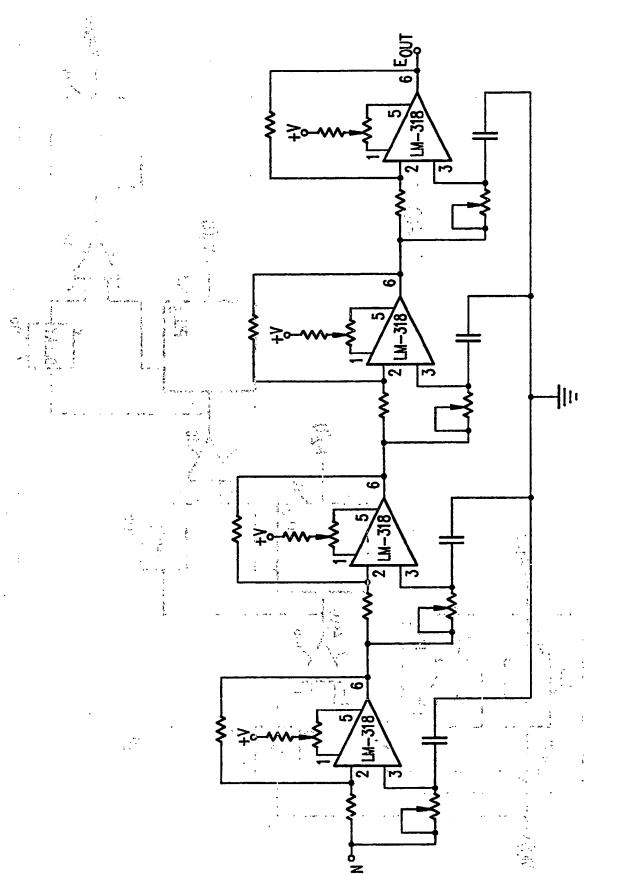
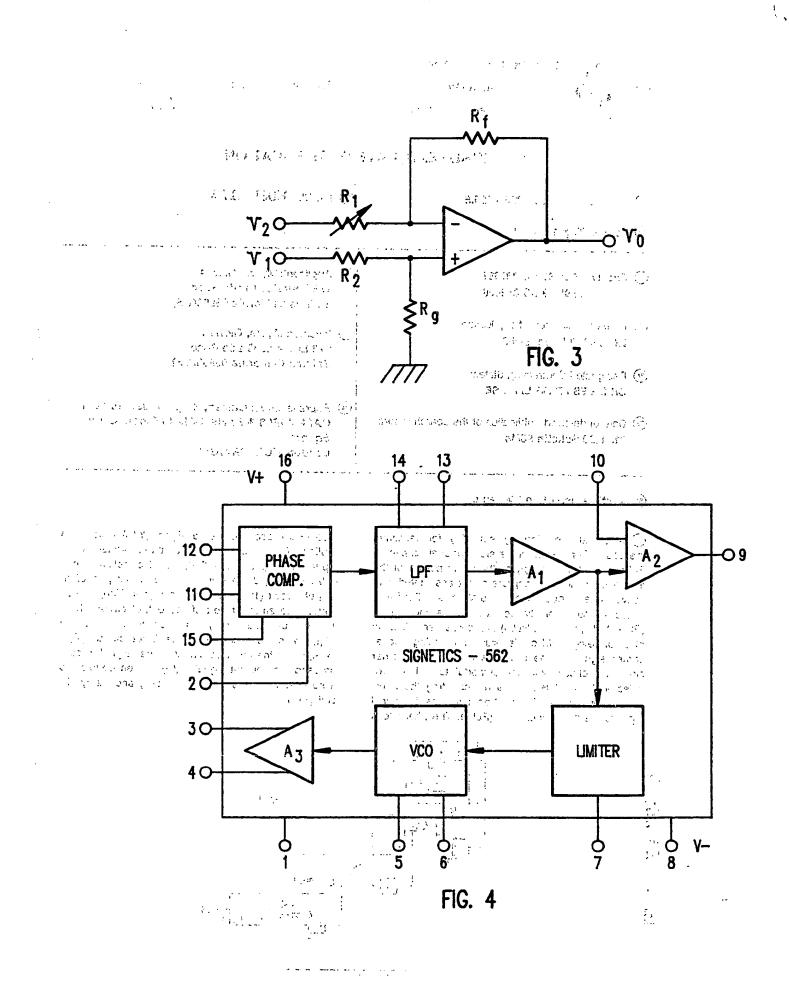


FIG. 2





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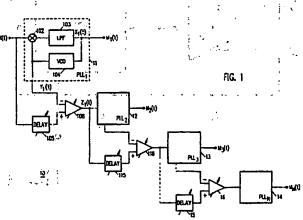
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- (9) Multiple use of an FM band.
- (T) A signal receiving system (10) for receiving measages from each of several unequal amplitude FM'carriers (v_i(t)) occupying the same portion of the frequency band. The capture effect associated with conventional frequency demodulators is utilized in a series of successively coupled phase lock loops (PLL₁, PLL₂, PLL₃, ..., PLL_N) to provide demodulation of all of several FM carrier signals including weaker carrier signals in the presence of dominant carrier signals. A phase lock loop demodulator (PLL₁) provides a demodulated signal representing the information contained in the most dominant carrier signal input to the phase lock loop (PLL₁). The phase lock

loop (PLL₁ also provides a signal ($Y_i(t)$) which is a replica of the most dominant carrier signal in the input. The input signal ($V_i(t)$) is also delayed in a delay circuit (105) and input into an input port of an output circuit (106). The replica signal ($Y_i(t)$) is also coupled to an input port of the output circuit (106). The output circuit (106) produces an output signal ($Z_i(t)$) which is identical to the input signal ($V_i(t)$) except that the most dominant carrier signal is suppressed. The output signal ($Z_i(t)$) is then coupled to a successive phase lock loop (PLL₂) and delay circuit (115).

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